

DEBORAH AND BARAK DELIVER ISRAEL

Judges 4: 4 to 5: 31

To-day we begin some new and wonderful stories about people who lived more than a thousand years before Jesus and Peter and John lived.

God's people, the Israelites, had been for many years in Egypt, where they had been very unhappy slaves, and Moses had led them back to their own land again. But they were many years on the way, and when they did reach the land of Canaan, they were still among heathen people, and many times they forgot God and did as the heathen people around them did. Then they had trouble and sorrow.

At the time of our story they were asking God to save them from a cruel and powerful king who was troubling them. God sent them help through a woman named Deborah.

She was a very good woman who loved God and did all that she could to make others love him. God gave her so much wisdom that all the people came to her for help. She sat out under a palm tree that was called "Deborah's palm."

God showed Deborah the way to conquer the enemy king and his great general, Sisera. She sent a message to Barak, a brave soldier, telling him to gather his army together and go out against Sisera's army. The soldiers of the Israelites

